

SCENE FIVE*A Street in Folkestone. Night.**(She and KIPPS walk out into the street. HELEN hurries away with the others, leaving the lonely figure of KIPPS strolling down the street, alone. He stops, whistles. We go into his head.)*

KIPPS It's a present. From her to me. Who am I kidding?

Music No. 6: SHE'S TOO FAR ABOVE MEShe'd never look at me. The "shop assistant selling haberdashery"?
Why would she?SHE'S TOO FAR ABOVE ME TO TOUCH SHE IS
SHE'S MUCH TOO HIGH
FOR SUCH AS I
SO WHAT MAKES ME EVEN DARE TO DREAM?
COS AN ALLEY CAT CAN'T GET THE CREAMI'M TOO FAR BENEATH HER TO DANCE A WALTZ
NO CHANCE SHE'D SAY
BUT GLANCE MY WAY
AND I SWEAR THAT SHE MELTS ME TO THE CORE
IT'S A FEELING I'VE NOT FELT BEFORE
SHE'S TOO FAR ABOVE ME BY HALF SHE IS
SHE'D LAUGH SHE WOULD
NOT HALF SHE WOULD
AND GO OFF WITH HER HEAD UP IN THE AIR
IS SHE TOO FAR ABOVE ME TO CARE?Music No. 6a: WATCH OUT!*(At this moment, a large bicycle ridden by a tall and rather untidy man appears.)*

CHITTERLOW Watch out! Woah!

(He hits KIPPS and knocks him over. CHITTERLOW climbs off his bike and hurries over.)

I hope you're not hurt?

- KIPPS Was that you 'it me?
- CHITTERLOW It's the handle bars, y'see. They're too low and when I turn, if I don't remember, Bif! I'm into something.
- KIPPS I'll say you're into something. Me trouser leg's all torn down.
- CHITTERLOW Oh, Blimey. Here's a copper. Don't let on I ran you over. Please. I've got no lamp and I might be in a spot of bother.
- (Sure enough a POLICEMAN is walking along the street. KIPPS scrambles to his feet.)*
- POLICEMAN Evenin'. Everything all right here?
- KIPPS Everything's fine, officer.
- (The policeman goes.)*
- CHITTERLOW That was good of you, I must say.
- KIPPS Well, I suppose accidents will happen and I don't like to get a chap into trouble.
- CHITTERLOW Spoken like a gentleman! This calls for a a glass of Old Methusalah Four Star! The Hope & Anchor's just around the corner. Can you manage?

Music No. 6b: SCENE CHANGE INTO HOPE & ANCHOR

SCENE SIX

The Hope & Anchor. Night.

(KIPPS is seated as CHITTERLOW puts down two mugs of beer.)

- KIPPS Was you really an actor, Mr Chitterlow? On the stage? Truly?
- CHITTERLOW I have been an actor, my boy. I have been an impresario. I have shared the secrets of the great.
- KIPPS What secrets?

- CHITTERLOW They wouldn't be secrets if I told you.
- KIPPS Were you a famous actor?
- CHITTERLOW There is more than one kind of fame.
- KIPPS What's the other kind?
- CHITTERLOW Isn't it time you introduced yourself?
- KIPPS Oh. Arthur Kipps. How d'you do.
- CHITTERLOW Arthur Kipps? But that's extraordinary!
- KIPPS I should've thought it was rather ordinary.
- CHITTERLOW No. It's strange because I have today named a character Arthur Kipps in a play I'm writing.
- KIPPS I thought you was an actor.
- CHITTERLOW And so I am. An actor, a writer, a chronicler of men! An artist in his life does many things!
- KIPPS So what does this Arthur Kipps do in your play?
- CHITTERLOW He will be torn between two women, a beauty from the South China Seas and a girl from his home town of Clacton-on-Sea. They say you can't love two women at once, but I tell you it's rot! Once there was three! Not counting Bessie, that is –
- KIPPS So how'd you come to make up my name?
- CHITTERLOW I didn't make it up. I read it in the paper. I often take names from the papers. They have an authenticity I can trust. Wait a minute. I must still have it. (*He fishes in his pocket for a folded newspaper.*) Here we are! I say! What was your mother's name?
- KIPPS Why?
- CHITTERLOW Just tell me!
- KIPPS Euphemia.

CHITTERLOW By Jove, it's you! It must be you! Listen! "Waddy or Kipps –"

KIPPS What d'you mean, Waddy?

CHITTERLOW Please listen! "Waddy or Kipps. If Arthur Waddy or Arthur Kipps, the son of Euphemia Kipps, born at East Grinstead" – Where were you born?

KIPPS East Grinstead.

CHITTERLOW "On September the first, eighteen hundred and eighty nine." Well?

KIPPS That's my birthday right enough.

CHITTERLOW "Would write to Messrs. Watson and Bean at the address below, he will learn something to his advantage."

KIPPS But what does that mean?

CHITTERLOW It means money, if you ask me.

KIPPS Money? What? For me?

(Now this has attracted the interest of other people nearby.)

CROWD 1 What's this?

CROWD 2 Who's got money?

CHITTERLOW He has. He's come into money if he wants to collect it.

CROWD 3 He's come into money?

KIPPS I don't know. It makes me nervous, Mr Chitterlow. It does truly.

CROWD 4 Nervous? He's come into money and he's nervous?

CHITTERLOW Why don't I go round for you? They're just here in Folkestone.

KIPPS Would you?

CHITTERLOW Of course I would.

CROWD 5 Of course he would!

CHITTERLOW They've gone to a lot of trouble to find you. Why, I expect you've come into a windfall.

CROWD 6 (F) Blimey, he's rich, this geezer! So the drinks are on 'im!

KIPPS I haven't got it *yet!* But . . .

Music No. 7: IF I HAD MONEY TO BURN – Part 2

IF I HAD MONEY TO BURN
 YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY
 IF I HAD MONEY TO BURN
 I'D GO IN A HURRY
 DOWN TO THE FOLKESTONE MUSIC STORE
 THEN I'D BURST THROUGH THE OLD FRONT DOOR
 AND BUY ME A BANJO

CHITTERLOW A banjo?

KIPPS
 BUY ME A BANJO

WOMAN Why's he want a banjo?

KIPPS
 BUY ME A BANJO
 CLATTER JANG-A RING-A JANG-A
 THAT'S WHAT I WOULD DO

CHITTERLOW
 IF YOU HAD ALL THAT MONEY COULD BUY
 IF YOU HAD ALL THAT MONEY COULD BUY
 IF YOU HAD ALL THAT MONEY COULD BUY

KIPPS
 I'D BUY ME A BANJO – RING DANG
 CLATTER JANG-A RING-A JANG-A
 PLAY ON A BANJO
 CLATTER JANG-A NIGHT AND DAY
 ON A BANJO
 CLATTER JANG-A RING-A JANG-A
 THAT'S WHAT I WOULD DO

(Instrumental during which drinks for KIPPS are lined up (and slid) down the bar. Down go the drinks!)

CHITTERLOW Landlord, two more helpings of Old Methusalah Four Star!

(Two more are slid along.)

IF YOU HAD MONEY TO BURN
IT SAYS IN THE PAPERS
IF YOU HAD MONEY TO BURN?

KIPPS
I'D GIVE UP THE DRAPERS
AND IF THE GOING GETS TOO HARD
WE COULD BUSK ON THE PROMENADE
WITH YOU ON A BANJO

CHITTERLOW
CLATTER JANG-A RING-A JANG-A

KIPPS
YOU ON A BANJO

1 GIRL CUSTOMER / 1 BOY CUSTOMER / LANDLORD
CLATTER JANG-A RING-A JANG-A

KIPPS
YOU ON A BANJO

3 FEMALE CUSTOMERS / BARMAID
CLATTER JANG-A RING-A JANG-A

KIPPS
YOU ON A BANJO

3 FEMALE CUSTOMERS / 4 MALE CUSTOMERS
CLATTER JANG-A RING-A JANG-A

KIPPS
YOU ON A BANJO

CROWD ALL
CLATTER JANG-A RING-A JANG-A